

EPA Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

Mansfield, OH

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund programs (each funded up to \$500,000 over five years) to capitalize loan funds to make loans for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the City of Mansfield (population 50,000) for a Brownfields Pilot. Located in the Appalachian Hills of north-central Ohio, Mansfield is a regional transportation hub with two U.S. highways, one state highway, two major railroads, and a regional airport. During the nineteenth century, the railroad facilitated a large industrial expansion in the area. However, in the late 1970s and early 1980s, economic growth dwindled and manufacturing declined dramatically, resulting in the loss of more than 1,000 jobs. The current unemployment rate is 9 percent and the poverty rate is 17.8 percent.

Since the late 1980s, the city has been working to revitalize the area. The city's "PR Project—Path to Revitalization," a linear redevelopment zone, has been targeted for potential redevelopment that includes a mix of light and heavy manufacturing brownfields properties. The city hopes that redeveloping these brownfields sites will have a positive impact on the vitality of the surrounding communities and restore the city's tax base.

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Mansfield, OH

Date of Announcement:
May 2000

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Mansfield Pilot will assess, categorize, and rank approximately 60 additional brownfields sites and will develop cleanup and redevelopment plans for three targeted brownfields in the city's "PR Project" redevelopment zone.

Contacts:

City of Mansfield, Ohio
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Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 5
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Visit the EPA Region 5 Brownfields web site at:

<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

OBJECTIVES

Mansfield's primary objectives are to assess, categorize, and rank approximately 60 brownfields to determine the extent of the contamination and redevelopment options and to conduct assessments at three targeted brownfields sites located within the "PR Project." The three targeted sites are a former chrome plating facility, a spent foundry sand landfill, and an iron casting foundry.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Assessing, categorizing, and ranking approximately 60 brownfields to determine possible contaminants and redevelopment potential;
- Conducting Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments at the three targeted brownfields sites;
- Developing cleanup and redevelopment plans for the targeted brownfields sites; and
- Conducting outreach activities in the communities surrounding the targeted sites to encourage public involvement.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.